

1 B Project  
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IB - 273/63

9 October 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, NSA E2

ATTENTION

THROUGH

FROM

: Chief, CIA/FID (EPIC)

SUBJECT : Tai-yuan Explosives Facility, Tai-yuan, Communist China

REFERENCE : (1) NSA Requirement E2/005-63  
(2) CIA/FID (EPIC) Project No. C 617/63

1. This memorandum is forwarded in answer to the above referenced requirement which concerns one of the explosives production areas located at Tai-yuan, Communist China.

2. A brief analysis and two enclosures of the referenced plant have been provided herein. Enclosure #1 is a vignette showing the entire complex, and Enclosure #2 is an annotated enlargement of the same area.

3. This explosives production area is one of at least eight explosives/arsenal production facilities located in and near Tai-yuan. The area requested is situated 7 nm north of the city and is dispersed over a 3 x 5 nautical mile area. There are two separate production areas and one explosives storage area. One production facility is located approximately 3 nm NNW of the city at coordinates 37 00N - 112 31E; the other is located approximately 6 nm N of the city at 37 50N - 112 34E; the large explosives storage area is located approximately 8 nm NNE of the city at 38 01N - 113 34E. A brief analysis of each of these areas, listed in the same order as above, is as follows:

A. Explosives Production Facility. This plant is contained within a walled area roughly 5000' x 2900' and consists primarily of explosives storage and handling type structures. The plant is probably operating as a black powder processing and an ammunitions loading and handling facility.

B. Explosives Production Facility. This plant appears to be under construction on the enclosed photography. It covers an area approximately 7000' x 4000' and has a test area associated with it. The areas that are complete, or nearly complete appear to indicate a capability of producing double base explosives. A probable nitrocellulose producing area is located on the western edge of the facility; and a possible tetryl production area is situated in the center of the plant area. The test area is located just outside of the NE corner of the plant. This area is probably where the explosives, shapes and projectiles are tested.

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SUBJECT: Tai-yuan Explosives Facility, Tai-yuan, Communist China

C. Explosives Storage Area. This area contains 18 revetted probable ammunition storage buildings. There are nine large, seven medium and two small storage buildings. All of the buildings are both rail and road served. The area appears to be enclosed by at least two fences.

4. The analyst assigned to this project was [redacted] who may be contacted directly on extension [redacted] should you have any questions concerning this memorandum. This requirement is considered to be complete as of the date of this memorandum.

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ENCLOSURES:

- 1 Vugraph (CIA/PID/IB-P-606/63)
- 1 Annotated Photo Enlargement (CIA/PID/IB-P-607/63)

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CIA/PID/IB:VND:blr (2905)

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 9 October 1963  
 Copy 7 of 19

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, NSA B2

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THROUGH :  (NPIC)

FROM : Chief, CIA/PID (NPIC)

SUBJECT : Tai-yuan Explosives Facility, Tai-yuan, Communist China

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 (2) CIA/PID (NPIC) Project No. C 617/63

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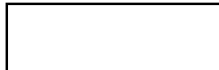
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A. Explosives Production Facility. This plant is contained within a walled area roughly 5000' x 2500' and consists primarily of explosives storage and handling type structures. The plant is probably operating as a black powder processing and an ammunitions loading and handling facility.

B. Explosives Production Facility. This plant appears to be under construction on the enclosed photography. It covers an area approximately 7000' x 4000' and has a test area associated with it. The areas that are complete, or nearly complete appear to indicate a capability of producing double base explosives. A probable nitrocellulose producing area is located on the western edge of the facility; and a possible tetryl production area is situated in the center of the plant area. The test area is located just outside of the NE corner of the plant. This area is probably where the explosives, shapes and projectiles are tested.

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SUBJECT: Tai-yuan Explosives Facility, Tai-yuan, Communist China

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